

---

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Selner. Claims 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selner and further in view of Grim. Claims 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46 and 47 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selner and further in view of Huang. Claims 3, 9, 12-24, 27, 30 and 33 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selner in view of Donzis. Claim 36 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selner in view of Donzis and further in view of Grim. Claims 39, 42, 45 and 48 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selner in view of Donzis and further in view of Huang.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Vo for the consideration given applicant's attorney at the interview of December 10, 2003. At the interview, agreement was reached that the proposed amendment including the presence of a plurality of interconnected air chambers that define a base portion and two opposed lateral sides render the claims unobvious over the prior art and put the claims in condition for allowance.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited

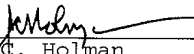
and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN, PLLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
John C. Holman  
Reg. No. 22,769

400 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2201  
(202) 638-6666

Date: December 12, 2003  
JLS/dmt